

ANNUAL REPORT

JULY 1, 1958 • JUNE 30, 1959

REPORT OF THE DIVISION OF LIVESTOCK DISEASE CONTROL

July 1, 1958 - June 30, 1959

TO THE COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE:

The report of the Division of Livestock Disease Control for the fiscal year July 1, 1958 to June 30, 1959, inclusive, is herewith submitted.

On March 23, 1959, as the result of the Brucellosis Program in cooperation with the United States Department of Agriculture, Massachusetts was declared a Modified Certified Brucellosis Area by the United States Department of Agriculture Research Service making it the sixteenth State in the United States to be so declared.

On April 14, 1959, the Special Commission established to study and investigate the advisability of a petition for the repeal of the law regulating the feeding of garbage to swine referred this petition to the next Annual Session.

An Act relative to Blood tests in order to control Brucellosis of cattle imported into the Commonwealth, Chapter 129 of the General Laws, was amended by striking out Section 36-F, and inserting in place thereof a new Section 36-F. This section was approved July 1, 1958.

Following is information and statistics on the various activities of the Division:

BOVINE TUBERCULOSIS

Chapter 319, Section 33, General Laws, Tercentenary Edition
as amended by Chapter 272, Acts of 1934 and Chapter
417, Acts of 1946 and amendments thereto.

There were seven thousand two hundred thirty-one (7,231) tuberculin herd tests, one hundred fifty-three thousand two hundred forty-two (153,242) animal tests applied to which forty-two (42) head of cattle or 2/100 of 1% were declared reactors as compared with seven thousand eight hundred eighty-eight (7,888) tuberculin herd tests and one hundred fifty-eight thousand eight hundred ninety-two (158,892) animal tests applied the previous fiscal year to which seventy-six (76) head of cattle or 4/100 of 1% reacted.

Twenty-five (25) or 59% of the forty-two (42) cattle declared to be reactors were reported as having "no gross" lesions of tuberculosis at time of slaughter.

Eight hundred and ninety-five (895) herds containing five thousand five hundred forty-nine (5,549) head of cattle, included in the census report of June 30, 1958, were disposed of by the owners prior to the census for the period ending June 30, 1959.

Two hundred and seventy-nine (279) herds in which testing has not previously been conducted and containing one thousand eight hundred forty-four (1,844) head of cattle are included in the census report for the period ending June 30, 1959.

Tuberculin tests are conducted by State and Federal accredited veterinarians under a State and Federal Cooperative Plan for the establishment of tuberculosis-free herds and the eradication of bovine tuberculosis.

Following is a summary of tuberculin tests as made by veterinarians for the twelve month period of this report.

	<u>HERDS</u>	<u>HEAD</u>	<u>REACTORS</u>
Veterinarians paid by the State on a salary basis	535	12,987	16
Veterinarians paid by the Federal Government on a salary basis	200	5,674	9
Veterinarians employed by the State and Federal Governments as Program Agents	6,467	132,756	17
Veterinarians authorized by request of and paid by the owners	29	1,825	
	<hr/> 7,231	<hr/> 153,242	<hr/> 42

COUNTY CENSUS AND INFECTION

as of

JUNE 30, 1959

COUNTY	HERDS	HEAD	INFECTION			THREE HEAD OR LESS*	
			HERDS	HEAD	REACTORS	HERDS	HEAD
Barnstable	49	515				33	52
Berkshire	826	19,689				229	436
Bristol	677	14,877	1	29	1	212	392
Dukes	39	417				18	28
Essex	411	9,205				122	224
Franklin	930	19,300				247	498
Hampden	541	8,276				193	349
Hampshire	788	15,884				249	474
Middlesex	563	10,723	1	5	3	206	352
Nantucket	8	88				3	6
Norfolk	279	5,833				98	183
Plymouth	450	9,062				190	331
Suffolk	2	56					
Worcester	1,626	35,019	1	77	6	476	918
TOTALS	7,189	148,944	3	111	10	2,276	4,243

*Included in Columns 2 and 3

BRUCELLOSIS

The Brucellosis Program has been carried on in accordance with Chapter 129, General Laws as amended by Chapter 527, Acts of 1956.

On March 23, 1959, as the result of the Brucellosis Program in cooperation with the United States Department of Agriculture, Massachusetts was declared a Modified, Certified Brucellosis Area making it the sixteenth State in the United States to be so declared.

During the fiscal year owners were reimbursed for sixty-four (64) purebred cattle amounting to \$3,000.00, and (608) six hundred eight grade cattle amounting to \$16,957.33, or a total of \$19,957.33.

Following is a tabulation of the results of laboratory examination of the blood samples from cattle under this program, also from goats, horses and swine:

	<u>Negative</u>	<u>Reactors</u>	<u>Suspicious</u>	<u>Others**</u>	<u>Total</u>
Cattle	86,591	616	4,265	1,137	92,609
Goats	65		1	2	68
Horses	1		1		2
Swine	108	3	2	16	129
	86,765	619	4,269	1,155	92,808

** Containers broken, insufficient amount of blood, or hemolyzed.

Certified Herds:

Certified Bang's Disease-Free Herds	908
Cattle in Certified Bang's Disease-Free Herds	19,759

Under the present law, Chapter 527 Section 36B, all calves in the Commonwealth must be vaccinated against Brucellosis when they are from the ages of four (4) through eight (8) months.

Following is a table indicating the number of calves vaccinated by months:

CALFHOOD VACCINATION
(by months)

		Salaried Agents (State)		Federal Agents		Program Agents		Private Agents		Totals	
		Herds	Head	Herds	Head	Herds	Head	Herds	Head	Herds	Head
July	1958	7	16			326	932	4	28	337	976
August		7	17			341	988	17	72	365	1,077
September		9	22			309	863	2	3	320	888
October		12	22			377	1,134	9	46	398	1,202
November		21	45	5	10	559	1,534	12	29	597	1,618
December		22	56			581	1,597	14	44	617	1,697
January	1959	32	83	1	2	565	1,524	9	59	607	1,668
February		18	79	2	11	591	1,753	19	116	630	1,959
March		39	115	5	22	649	1,881	11	62	704	2,080
April		25	65	30	65	586	1,738	8	33	649	1,901
May		19	49	5	7	472	1,466	8	36	504	1,558
June		14	40			299	910	10	19	323	969
TOTALS		225	609	48	117	5,655	16,320	123	547	6,051	17,593

GOATS

This Division arranges for the tuberculin testing and blood testing of goats provided the owner signs an agreement to the effect that any goats declared as reactors to either test will be immediately disposed of for slaughter with no compensation allowed by the Commonwealth.

Under this agreement forty-five (45) goats were tuberculin tested and thirty-three blood tested. No reactors were found to either test.

INTERSTATE RECEIPTS OF CATTLE

Three thousand eighty-two (3,082) permits were issued covering seventeen thousand five hundred fifty-two (17,552) head of dairy cattle.

Canada	3,727	New Hampshire	1,346
Connecticut	754	New York	2,336
Florida	8	Ohio	7
Iowa	63	Oregon	11
Indiana	45	Pennsylvania	23
Illinois	13	Rhode Island	164
Kansas	1	South Carolina	1
Maine	2,679	Vermont	5,486
Maryland	12	Virginia	2
New Jersey	13	Wisconsin	861
		Total	17,552

EXPORTS

Interstate certificates of health were issued on four thousand one hundred and twenty-seven (4,127) head of cattle and eleven (11) goats; seventeen (17) swine exported to other States and Countries as follows:

<u>DESTINATION</u>	<u>HEAD</u>	<u>DESTINATION</u>	<u>HEAD</u>
Arizona	7	Nebraska	1
Canada	7	New Hampshire	403
Connecticut	614	New Jersey	22
Costa Rica	2	New York	790
Cuba	11	Ohio	9
Ecuador	1	Oklahoma	3
Florida	209	Oregon	2
Georgia	9	Pennsylvania	56
Germany	61	Peru	1
Idaho	1	Rhode Island	1,336
Illinois	7	South Carolina	1
Indiana	12	South Dakota	2
Iowa	27	Tennessee	3
Louisiana	2	Texas	10
Maine	79	Turkey	49
Maryland	85	Vermont	227
Michigan	1	Virginia	53
Minnesota	3	Wisconsin	12
Missouri	9		
		Total	4,127

Eleven (11) goats were shipped to Maine

Seventeen (17) swine were shipped to New Jersey

QUARANTINE STATION AT BRIGHTONDISEASED CATTLE RECEIVED AND RELEASED FOR IMMEDIATE SLAUGHTER:

	T.B. Reactors	From Quarantined Herds	Brucellosis Suspects	Brucellosis Reactors
Massachusetts	36	229	149	499
New Hampshire	11			
New York				49
Rhode Island				57
Vermont		10		146
Connecticut			2	
Total	47	239	151	751

There were one hundred sixty-five (165) cattle tested at Brighton. One hundred forty-four (144) were tuberculin tested and one hundred sixty-two (162) were blood tested. Of the one hundred sixty-five (165) animals tested fifteen (15) reacted to the blood test.

All trucks carrying tuberculosis or brucellosis reactors have been cleaned and disinfected before leaving the yards.

Total number of livestock received at this station was as follows:

Cattle	53,207	Sheep	6,682
Calves	96,322	Hogs	25,950

LICENSED DEALERS IN BOVINE ANIMALS

During the fiscal year there were two hundred seventy-one (271) licenses issued to dealers in dairy and beef cattle, and three hundred eighty-six (386) plates were sent out for use on the trucks operated by these dealers.

A total of twelve thousand five hundred thirty-one (12,531) dairy cattle and seven hundred eleven (711) beef cattle were reported by licensed dealers as purchased and sold.

PERMITS TO FEED COOKED GARBAGE TO SWINE

Three hundred fifty-two (352) permits to feed garbage to swine were issued.

RABIES

Under Massachusetts Department of Public Health regulations (Chapter 111, General Laws as amended by Chapter 265, Acts of 1938) Sections 6 and 7 "Dog Bite" is declared a disease dangerous to public health.

Order No. 34, Section 3 of the Division of Livestock Disease Control regulations reads: "All dogs known to have bitten persons shall be quarantined for a period of fourteen (14) days for observation, at the end of which period if no symptoms of rabies have developed said animals may be released from quarantine on order of the Director."

Investigation of reported injuries inflicted to persons by biting of dogs and the quarantining of such dogs is one of the duties of the Inspector of Animals.

The following tabulation includes injuries reported inflicted by dogs and other animals:

RABIES

Showing Symptoms			Contactse				Bite Cases				Total	
	Positive	Negative	Questionable	Released Contacts	Killed or died. No Symptoms	Killed or Died. Positive	Pending	Released Quarantined Animals	Killed No Examination	Killed Negative	Pending	
Brought Forward								805				
<u>1958</u>												
July								906	2	26		
August								1,283	3	22		
September								1,302	1	30		
October								1,064	1	19		
November								718	0	5		
December								666	0	12		
<u>1959</u>												
January								612	0	22		
February								521	2	18		
March								732	4	22		
April								1,293	1	21		
May								1,744	6	33		
June								1,955	3	17		
Forward											703	
Total								13,611	23	247	703	14,584

ANIMALS INVOLVED

Dogs	13,486	23	144	699	
Cats	84		37	2	
Rabbits	10		8		
Monkeys	10		0	1	
Rats	3		7		
Horses	3		1	1	
Mice	8		1		
Parakeets	1		0		
Squirrels	1		22		
Minks	1		1		
Foxes	1		6		
Hamsters	1		2		
Raccoons	1		2		
Donkeys	1		0		
Chipmunks			9		
Skunks			1		
Muskrats			2		
Bats			4		
Total	13,611	23	247	703	14,584

Thirteen thousand eight hundred seventy-one (13,871) persons were bitten by dogs and other animals. One thousand three hundred and one (1,301) persons were bitten by stray animals, and two hundred and forty-seven (247) persons were bitten by animals the brains of which were examined at the laboratory.

The heads of one hundred forty-four (144) dogs, four (4) bats, thirty-seven (37) cats, nine (9) chipmunks, six (6) foxes, two (2) hamsters, one (1) horse, one (1) mink, one (1) mouse, two (2) muskrats, eight (8) rabbits, two (2) raccoons, seven (7) rats, one (1) skunk and twenty-two (22) squirrels were received at the laboratory for examination, all of which were reported as negative.

MISCELLANEOUS DISEASES

Actinomycosis: Four (4) cows reported as affected with this disease were quarantined. One (1) cow was released; the other three were slaughtered.

Actinobacillus: This disease was reported in one cow. Cow was slaughtered.

Blackleg and Malignant Edema: Preventive treatment was administered to one thousand seven hundred eighteen (1,718) cattle on one hundred thirty-seven (137) premises.

Ecthyma: Twenty sheep (20) were reported affected on one premises. Treated and later released.

ANNUAL INSPECTION OF NEAT CATTLE, SHEEP AND SWINE

In accordance with Section 10, Chapter 129 of the General Laws the annual inspection of neat cattle, sheep and swine and of the premises where kept was completed.

Reports received from the cities and towns showed that inspection indicated the following information:

COUNTY	HERDS	NEAT CATTLE	HORSES	SWINE		SHEEP	GOATS
				HERDS	HEAD		
Barnstable	63	469	158	9	178	230	79
Berkshire	709	18,152	786	84	969	818	215
Bristol	229	13,479	707	90	12,390	1,123	176
Dukes	39	425	95	8	25	1,385	9
Essex	495	8,377	901	72	9,850	800	228
Franklin	881	18,041	621	130	1,718	982	83
Hampden	463	7,152	361	48	2,179	453	105
Hampshire	728	15,031	555	108	2,218	1,043	89
Middlesex	560	10,623	1,448	140	25,501	800	203
Nantucket	9	83	9	2	41	26	3
Norfolk	262	5,596	859	57	4,641	473	115
Plymouth	430	9,370	816	85	10,198	1,086	223
Suffolk	2	53	134	4	956	0	0
Worcester	1,492	32,948	1,487	155	21,754	1,375	229
Total	6,362	139,791	8,937	992	92,618	10,594	1,757

Of the total number of cattle inspected one hundred twenty thousand one hundred thirteen (120,113) were listed as dairy cows, one thousand and one (1,001) were listed as purebred bulls, and nineteen thousand three hundred sixty-one (19,361) as purebred cows.

Regional meetings of Inspectors of Animals were held in the month of **December** in Boston, Greenfield, Segregansett (Dighton) Pittsfield, Springfield and Worcester.

Respectfully submitted,

EDWARD M. DWYER,
Director

